



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Appl. No.

10/078,350

Confirmation No. 5054

Applicant

M. ASANO et al

Filed

February 21, 2002

Title

STORAGE OPERATIONAL SYSTEM AND METHOD OF

PROVIDING THE STORAGE RENTAL SERVICE

TC/AU

3629

Examiner

N. Vig

Docket No. :

NIT-331

Customer No.:

24956

Commissioner for Patents

P.O. Box 1450

Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT

Sir:

In response to the Restriction Requirement mailed September 13, 2006, Applicants elect to prosecute the invention defined by the Examiner as Group I, including claims 1-3 and 6-8. This election is made with traverse.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional payment due to Deposit Account No. 50-1417.

Respectfully submitted,

MATTINGLY, STANGER, MALUR & BRUNDIDGE, P.C.

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October 2, 2006